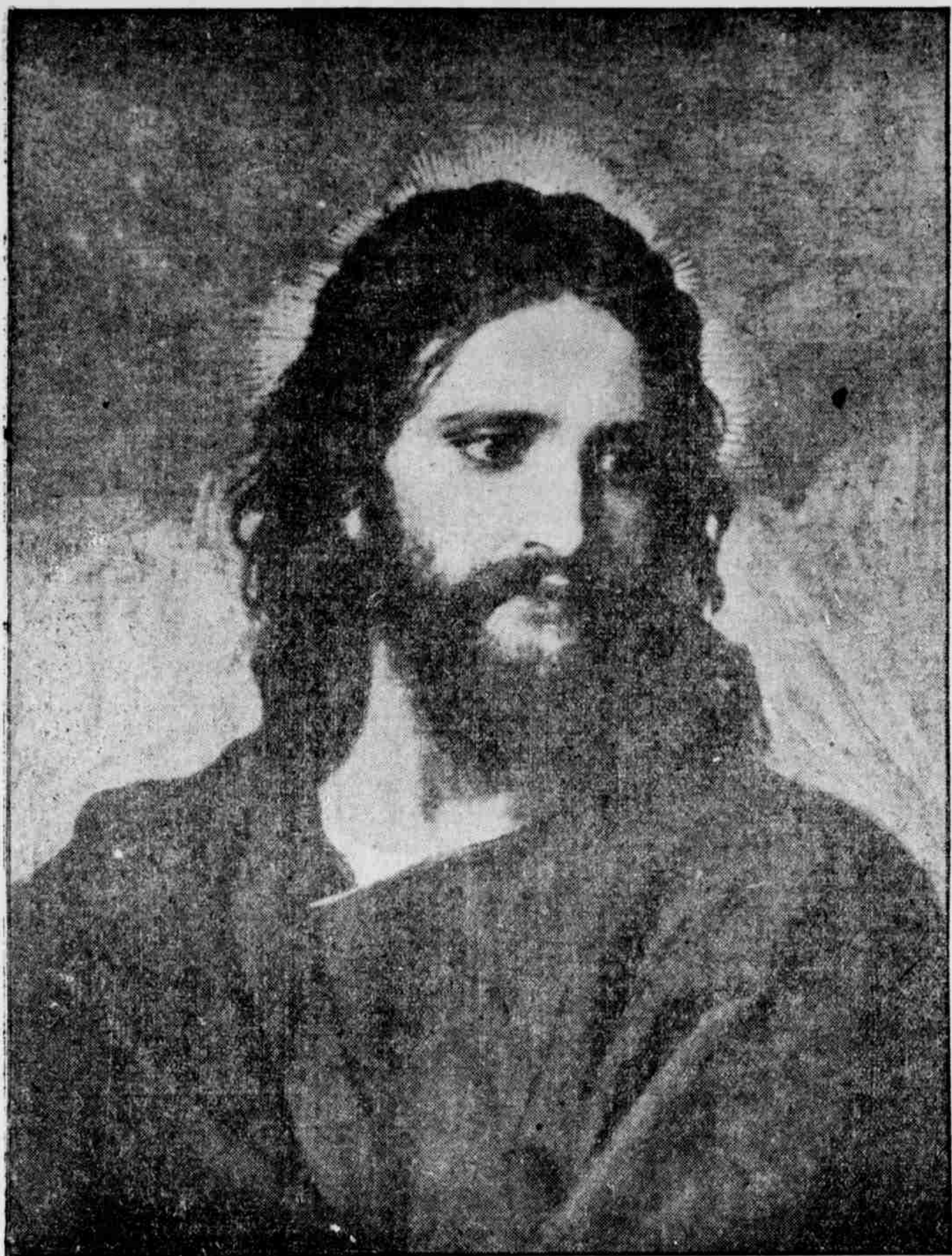


THE CHRIST.



From Painting by Hofmann, 1824.

The Lesson of the Christmas Tide

By DR. ROBERT STUART MACARTHUR
Pastor Calvary Baptist Church,
New York.



The Christmas-tide celebrates the birth-festival of our Lord. The incarnation of Christ is the central thought in the history of the world. It is the event around which all other events revolve in smaller or larger circles. All the great facts of history prelude to His coming had reference to His advent; all the events since look back to that advent as the beginning of a new era. All lines of previous history converge to the manger and the cross; all lines of history since diverge from these two epochal events. The birth of Christ was the beginning of a new race, and the observance of that birth is still the jubilee of this new race. Angels joined in the advent of Christ with songs and chorals as the left the bosom of the Father to become the child of Mary in the manger at Bethlehem. This festival is still the most joyous feast of the church. It makes childhood more beautiful and glorious, and it lightens the burdens of age and sorrow with its tender memories and its triumphant prophecies. In the chill of midwinter in northern climes it kindles a fire of hope and joy in every home and heart. It is prophetic of the golden age when Christ shall come again, when evil shall be overthrown, and when the song of a redeemed humanity shall sweep over the universe.

By the gifts which characterize this season we commemorate God's great Gift, the unspeakable gift of His Son to a world lost in sin and wandering in darkness. No one can rightly estimate the blessings which flow every year to all classes and conditions of men from the tender memories and gentle charities called forth by the remembrance of the Holy Child, Jesus. His birth has exalted the poetry, the music and the art of the centuries. It has changed all social customs and religious rituals. It has given a new glory to human life and a new trend to eternity. This is the time when all bitterness should be forgotten, all family feuds reconciled and all life glorified. It is unspeakably sad that in the name of Jesus Christ Russian murderers are slaughtering the Jewish people, the ancient and historic race which gave us the Christ. It is a cause for profound humiliation that superstition, bigotry and virtual idolatry still abound under the shelter of the Christian name.

"AND A LITTLE CHILD SHALL LEAD THEM"

By REV. JOHN TALBOT SMITH, LL.D.
President Catholic Summer School
of America.



The entire meaning of the festival of Christmas is contained in these words. It is the festival of the children, because on this day God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, took upon Him human nature in the shape of a helpless and beautiful child. Various meanings have been read into the celebration of the nativity of Christ—the humanitarian regards it as the proper placing of the human individual in the economic system; the more materialist looks upon it as the protest of infant right against adult might; the scientist of a certain school regards it as the emphasis of nature upon the necessity of training properly the next generation; the sentimentalist sees in it a noble tribute to the beauty and innocence of the child. It is necessary to remark, however, that if the child had to depend upon these classes for due respect and real training there would be no Christmas, no dedication of innocence and helplessness, and no emphasis upon duties to the next generation. The festival of Christmas is truly the social, economic, political and religious anniversary of the human child, through which he makes his demand upon the world for existence, care, training and love; the right of an immortal soul as well as of a future citizen. The right-minded part of society accepts the responsibility with joy, and its best efforts, in fact all its efforts, are expended on the work of preparation for the coming of the Child. Not only do parents labor, but the legislators make laws, teachers teach, artists create and commerce agonizes for the child—for the next generation.

Therefore the monumental truth of modern civilization is expressed in the text: And a little child shall lead them.

The entire meaning of the festival of Christmas is contained in these words. It is the festival of the children, because on this day God the Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, took upon Him human nature in the shape of a helpless and beautiful child. Various meanings

Too Poor.
Dunn—Why is it that all the stores reduce prices after Christmas?
Dyer—Because nobody can afford to pay the former prices.—Judge.

A Message of Peace in the Christmas Season

By RT. REV. DAVID HUMMELL GREER
Coadjutor Bishop of New York.



The Christmas season comes with its message of peace to a world torn and rent with many divisions, a world in which there is much strife. This strife is to be allayed and these divisions healed not by any process of statutory enactment, but by that spirit of brotherly love and kindness which takes possession of the human heart at Christmastide.

Just so far as that spirit continues regnant in the hearts of men throughout the year will the Christmas season be prolonged and continue to give its blessings to mankind.

Perhaps one lesson which the Christmas season teaches above all others is that, in order to enter the kingdom of peace and happiness, we must become as a little child. And let that appealing love which the little child inspires become a persisting force in our lives!

I once saw all the traffic in Fifth avenue stopped by a little child. Its mother was wheeling it across the street in its baby carriage and in the middle of the thoroughfare, crowded with vehicles of all kinds, she became panic-stricken and did not know what to do or which way to turn. But, suddenly, all the drivers reined in their horses, all the chauffeurs stopped their automobiles, and all the teamsters pulled up their trucks—the traffic of the busy avenue had been brought to a standstill by a little child.

So will the noise and the strife and the confusion of the world be arrested and checked by the little Christmas Child.

Both Happy.
He—Which do you think are the happier in the holiday season—the ones who give or the ones who receive?
She—Well, if you are speaking of the things which transpire under the mistletoe, I think it's an even break.—Yonkers Statesman.

Sure Thing.
Mrs. Flattie—I wonder what makes the janitor so pleasant?
Flattie—Christmas is approaching, my dear.—Judge.

Caught at It.
"What did your New Year's turkey cost you, Uncle Mose?"
"Ten dollars an' costs, boss."—Houston Post.

THE AUTHOR-MAN'S SURPRISE

Little Story with a Sequel That Is Hard to Guess.

Upon a certain day there was an author-man who needed the money; so he sat down and took up that object which is reputed to be mightier than the sword and wrote a piece. Having finished his article, he went to the post office, purchased some miffing stamps and mailed the piece to the editor. Then he waited for the child of his brain to make its way back to his mantel piece, accompanied by a warm note from the editor saying that, owing to a redundancy of similar matter, he was compelled to reject the piece, although this action wrenched his heart strings to such an extent as to almost drag that organ from its moorings. However, this rejection was to be considered as in nowise a condemnation of the merit of the article, etc., etc.

The near-author waited a spell, but the letter that he looked for but dreaded, never came. Now, dear reader, we give you three guesses as to the fate of the manuscript. Nope; all wrong. The piece was accepted. This is it.—Judge.

DOES YOUR BACK ACHE?

Profit by the Experience of One Who Has Found Relief.

James R. Keeler, retired farmer, of Fenner street, Cazenovia, N. Y., says: "About fifteen years ago I suffered with my back and kidneys. I doctored and used many remedies without getting relief. Beginning with Doan's Kidney Pills, I found relief from the first box, and two boxes restored me to good, sound condition. My wife and many of my friends have used Doan's Kidney Pills with good results and I can earnestly recommend them." Sold by all dealers. 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.



PUT DOWN "EDDICATION" IDEA.

Farmers' Plea Had Weight Among Brother Agriculturists.

In the early forties, on a certain "town meetin' day" in one of the small farming communities of the Granite state, there was more than the usual interest and excitement. Some audacious Philistine had secured the insertion in the warrant of an article "To see if the town will appropriate \$500 for a new schoolhouse."

The sturdy yeomanry were out in force to fight down this proposition. The sympathetic moderator didn't "moderate" them worth a cent. The so-called "toney" advocates, conscious from the start of their numerical weakness, were conciliatory and persuasive, in the hope of thus winning to their standard sufficient of the opposition to carry the day. These hopes were dashed, however, when a veteran farmer, the Nestor of the guild, got the floor, and shouted in foghorn tones:

"What do you want of schoolhouses, anyway? This eddication talk is raisin' the old Harry with the boys on the farm! There's that Danny Webster—a likely a young man's ever raised in these 'ere parts! Got this eddication idee into his head—left the farm—never's heard of afterwar'!" This was a settler. The "toney" fled the scene, and the "noes" had it.

If a man has a marble quarry he asks: What can I do with marble? He builds, he seeks other builders. The possession of a power, like the possession of an estate, impels to use, to gain, to service.

NO MEDICINE.

But Change of Food Gave Final Relief.

Most diseases start in the alimentary canal—stomach and bowels. A great deal of our stomach and bowel troubles come from eating too much starchy and greasy food. The stomach does not digest any of the starchy food we eat—white bread, pastry, potatoes, oats, etc.—these things are digested in the small intestines, and if we eat too much, as most of us do, the organs that should digest this kind of food are overcome by excess of work, so that fermentation, indigestion, and a long train of ills result.

Too much fat also is hard to digest, and this is changed into acids, sour stomach, belching gas, and a bloaty, heavy feeling.

In these conditions a change from indigestible foods to Grape-Nuts will work wonders in not only relieving the distress but in building up a strong digestion, clear brain and steady nerves. A Wash woman writes:

"About five years ago I suffered with bad stomach—dyspepsia, indigestion, constipation—caused, I know now, from eating starchy and greasy food. I doctored for two years without any benefit. The doctor told me there was no cure for me. I could not eat anything without suffering severe pain in my back and sides, and I became discouraged.

"A friend recommended Grape-Nuts and I began to use it. In less than two weeks I began to feel better, and inside of two months I was a well woman and have been ever since.

"I can eat anything I wish with pleasure. We eat Grape-Nuts and cream for breakfast, and are very fond of it." Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read the little book, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a reason."

IF YOU WANT WHAT YOU WANT WHEN YOU WANT IT ALWAYS KEEP A BOTTLE OF

ST. JACOBS OIL

IN THE HOUSE AND YOU WILL HAVE A QUICK, SAFE AND SURE REMEDY FOR PAIN WHERE YOU CAN GET AT IT WHEN NEEDED. PRICE 25c AND 50c

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. One a bottle.

A woman's idea of a perfect gentleman is any man who agrees with her.

All Cloth Hats, Children's Dresses, etc., made to look like new with PUTNAM FADELESS DYES.

Jealous.

Mother—What's Tommy been fighting about?

Little Sister—Oh, he's mad because Jimmy Smith has to wear spectacles and he doesn't—Detroit Free Press.

National Pure Food and Drugs Act.

The Garfield Tea Company's preparations comply in every respect with the requirements of The National Pure Food and Drugs Act, June 30th, 1906. Serial No. 284, assigned by the Government, will appear on every package of their goods.

Change in University Rules.

By the vote of 206 to 109 the senate of Oxford University, England, has discontinued the publication of the names of students in the mathematical tripos in the order of merit, and hereafter there will be no "senior wrangler."

To Wash Velvet.

Velvet may be washed by shaking it about in warm Ivory Soap suds; then rinse thoroughly and let it drip dry. On no account squeeze or wring it. Be careful to hang it straight on the line, for otherwise it will be crooked when dry.

ELEANOR R. PARKER.

May Throw Light on History.

While excitement regarding the Hohenzollern memoirs is still rife in Europe, there is subdued talk in British military circles regarding the forthcoming appearance of a book which will contain some of the late duke of Cambridge's voluminous correspondence. A diary kept by Emperor Frederick of Germany is in safekeeping in England and the day may not be far distant when it also will be published. Correct answers to numerous historical enigmas may be expected from such a publication.

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A perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP.

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